

the far East so far as they have gone, said to the Associated Press to-day: "Whatever may be the eventual result of the war, Russia, in allowing us to occupy and fortify Masampah, has created for herself another Dardanelles. With the fortification of Masampah the integrity of Japan is assured forever. No fleet can now pass there against Japan's wishes. Even if we be beaten, we would not give up Masampah."

The Associated Press understands that the Japanese troops are advancing rapidly towards the Yalu River. There, it is expected, they will meet and engage the Russian forces. The Japanese declare that the numbers of the Russian troops are greatly exaggerated.

The plan of the Japanese appears to be to take the road which leads almost straight to Mukden. They profess to have no doubt that they will be able to drive back the Russian forces towards Harbin.

Baron Hayashi points out that the Mukden road, though nominally under Russian military control, will be subject to constant raids from Chinese bands, who will swoop down from the hills. Proceeding diagonally, the Japanese intend to cut the line of communication between Port Arthur and the mainland of Manchuria, not only preventing the Russian reinforcements from reaching the Port Arthur garrison, but inflicting damage on the Manchuria Railroad.

The British view that the Japanese will in the meantime be able to occupy Port Arthur is chiefly based on the latest information that the Russian guns cannot be brought to bear on any force landed at Piekon Bay, which is on the western side of Port Arthur, and it is believed that the Japanese admiral will follow the tactics almost exactly similar to those intended to be pursued at Santiago, the troops storming the batteries in the harbor, while the Japanese fleet, waiting for the ships of Vice-Admiral Alexeff, who, in the event of a land attack being successful, must either make a dash for liberty with his crippled fleet or fight, where they are against practically helpless odds.

In spite of the lack of news it is confidently held here that the Japanese land forces are actively engaged in a most important movement, which will come to a climax as swiftly as did Japan's first naval attack.

## BUT TWO BATTLES.

Best Information Leads to Belief That There Have Been But Two Actual Conflicts.

(By Associated Press.) NEW YORK, Feb. 12.—A careful study of the reports that have reached America and Europe from the East, including press dispatches and communications through official channels, leads to the belief that but two actual conflicts of any moment have so far occurred. These are the Japanese naval attack on Port Arthur on Monday night and Tuesday morning, and the affair at Chemulpo on Monday and Tuesday.

In circles where knowledge of conditions in that part of the world allows them to speak with accuracy, the various reports of other engagements are considered but echoes of these two fights. News travels slow in North China. Cable and telegraph facilities are very limited, and it is very evident as reports of the Port Arthur and Chemulpo attacks reach various points that the Japanese are being misled by resident correspondents, resulting in a natural confusion of dates.

The circumstantial report of another engagement, sent by the Reuter Telegraph Company from Tokyo, under date of February 10th, also undoubtedly referred to the original Port Arthur attack, news of which had just reached Tokyo.

The flood of conflicting dispatches from various North China points during the Boxer revolution is recalled. For this reason the report cabled by the Tientsin correspondent of the London Standard that a Russian fleet was on the verge of attacking the Japanese fleet is entirely disregarded.

## FIRE ON FU PING.

Russians Wound Three Members of Crew of British Steamer and Then Apologize.

(By Associated Press.) CHE FOO, Feb. 11.—The steamer Fu Ping, when leaving Port Arthur, was fired upon by Russians. Three Chinese members of the crew were wounded. The Russians afterwards apologized for firing on the vessel. The Fu Ping upon its arrival at Wei-Hai-Wei filed a protest with the British commissioner. The American consul has reported to United States Minister Coker that the Russian authorities have refused to allow the American steamer Plekades to leave Port Arthur. The Plekades sailed from Chemulpo on February 2 with a cargo of flour.

## MERCHANTMAN SUNK.

Russian Fleet Succeeds in Sending Japanese Steamer to the Bottom.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Feb. 12.—Baron Hayashi, the Japanese minister here, has received a dispatch from Tokyo announcing that on February 11th two Japanese merchant steamers, the Nakanoura Maru and the Saka Maru, while on their way from Sakata to Otaru (on the island of Hokkaido) were surrounded and shelled by four Russian warships, presumably the Vladivostok squadron, off the coast of Herushu (Kushiro). The Nakanoura Maru was sunk, but the Saka Maru escaped and arrived safely at Fukuyma (Island of Hokkaido).

Another Account. WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—The Japanese legation this evening received the following dispatch under date of Tokyo, February 11th:

"Two small Japanese merchant ships 'Zen Shio' and 'Nakanoura Maru' while on their way to Otaru (a port on the western coast of Yezo Island) from Sakata (a port on the northern coast of the main island of Japan) were fired on February 11th by four Russian men-of-war, off the coast of Amori Province, and the latter was sunk while the former had a narrow escape. The Russian men-of-war

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are still seen off the western coast of Yezo Island. They are supposed to be the first-class cruisers which have been shut up at Vladivostok and tried some time ago to join the main squadron at Port Arthur.

## TROOPS ORDERED OUT.

An Imperial Ukase Commands Military Establishments to be Placed in Readiness for War.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 12.—An Imperial ukase, dated February 10th, has ordered the troops in the military establishments in the Siberian military districts be placed in readiness for war; that all the divisions in the Far Eastern vicereignty be brought to war strength, and that the army and navy reserves in the Siberian and Kasan districts be called out for active service. The authorities are empowered to requisition the necessary horses.

## ORDERED TO LEAVE.

Austrian Collier Java, Chartered by Russia, Ordered From Port Said by Egyptian Ministry.

(By Associated Press.) PORT SAID, EGYPT, Feb. 12.—The Austrian collier Java, chartered by Russia, to proceed to Port Arthur with coal, has been ordered by the Egyptian ministry of foreign affairs to leave here immediately.

## Nothing Known of It.

(By Associated Press.) BERLIN, Feb. 12.—It is officially announced here that nothing is known of the passage or attempted passage of the Russian fleet through the Kaiser Wilhelm (Baltic North Sea) Canal.

## LANDING TROOPS

The Disembarkation of Japanese Forces at Chemulpo Proceeding Satisfactorily.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Feb. 12.—The Japanese minister here, Baron Hayashi, has received a dispatch from the government at Tokyo, announcing that the latter has not yet received an official report of the battle fought off Port Arthur and adding that apparently the disembarkation of Japanese troops is proceeding satisfactorily and without disorder at Chemulpo, the port of Seoul, Korea, and elsewhere. The advice of the Japanese minister further announces that M. Payoff, the Russian minister at Seoul, and the Russian legation guard have departed for China, and that the Russian officers and sailors who surrendered to the Japanese after the battle fought off Chemulpo will be sent to Shanghai under parole on the first neutral vessel available.

The official telegram adds the information that all the survivors of the Varig, Korietz and the transport Sanki, which were taken on board the British, French and Italian warships off Chemulpo.

The above is the first reference made in the Eastern dispatches to the loss of the Sanki. Apparently she was a Russian transport, which had arrived off Chemulpo with the intention of landing troops there, though no mention has been made of their capture by the Japanese. It was announced February 7th, from Tokyo, that Russian troops had been dispatched to Seoul.

## OFFICIAL REPORT.

Admiral Togo Sends Account to His Government of the Battle With Russian Fleet.

(By Associated Press.) TOKIO, Thursday, Feb. 11.—Vice-Admiral Togo's official report of the attack of the Japanese fleet at Port Arthur reached Tokyo late this afternoon. The report was written at sea, February 10th, at a point undisclosed by the Navy Department. The report briefly and modestly recounts the Japanese victory, Vice-Admiral Togo left the battle grounds and not knowing the full extent of the damage his torpedo shells had inflicted, but he was evidently confident that the Russians had suffered heavily. A translation of Vice-Admiral Togo's report follows:

"After the combined fleet left Sasebo on February 8th, everything went as planned. At midnight, February 8th, our advance squadron attacked the enemy at Port Arthur. At the same time the enemy's advance squadron was for the most part outside of Port Arthur. Of the advance squadron at least the battleship Poltava, the protected cruiser Askold and two others appeared to have been struck by our torpedoes. On February 9th, our fleet advanced in the off wing of Port Arthur bay and attacked the rest of the enemy's ships about forty minutes. The result of the attack is not yet known, but it is believed considerable damage was inflicted on the enemy, and I believe that they were greatly demoralized. They stopped fighting about 1 o'clock and appeared to retreat into the harbor. In this action the damage to our fleet was very slight, and our fighting strength is not in the least decreased. The number of killed and wounded was fifty-eight. Of these four were killed and fifty-four wounded. A report of the engagement of the squadron at Chemulpo has probably been sent to you already directly by Admiral Uriu, as our advance

squadron bore the brunt of the enemy's fire. And after the attack, for the most part, rejoined the main fleet. The Imperial princes on board the ships are unharm.

The conduct of all our officers during the action was cool, not unlike that during the ordinary maneuvers. Since the battle their spirits have been high, but their conduct was very calm during the battle. This morning, owing to a heavy south wind, there has been no communication between the ships, and no detailed report has been received from each vessel, so I report merely the above facts. (Signed) "TOGO."

## MR. HAY'S NOTE.

Proposition to Respect Neutrality and Administrative Entity of China Meets With Favor.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—To Russia and Japan, the Washington government suggests the propriety of limiting hostilities within as small an area as possible, and of respecting the neutrality and administrative entity of China, that China may be free from disturbances and foreign interests there from menace. This the Associated Press is enabled to give as the substance of the note addressed by Secretary Hay on February 10th to the St. Petersburg and Tokyo governments. On February 8th, in a note to Germany, Great Britain and France, Mr. Hay invited these powers concurrently to address Russia and Japan with the same suggestion, and February 11th this invitation was extended to Italy, Austria-Hungary, the Netherlands, Denmark, Spain and Belgium.

Germany was the first to respond with a prompt acceptance of the invitation, and the promise that she immediately would address the two combatants.

Great Britain was heard from next expressing adherence to the principle laid down in the note, but withholding formal acceptance pending an answer to the inquiry whether the administrative entity of China involved Manchuria. Japan was heard from quickly with the answer that she would act readily on the suggestions of the United States if a similar promise could be obtained from Russia.

Italy, Austria-Hungary and the Netherlands expressed sympathy with the idea and promised an answer after consultation with other powers. There is reason to believe that Spain and Belgium also will accept the invitation. Russia thus far has been silent, and the attitude of France is one of hesitation.

This is the situation to-night. Meanwhile it is learned that Germany is addressing the combatants with a note in substance the same as that of Secretary Hay.

Regarding the attitude of Great Britain it has been a matter of some regret to the officials here that the British government has stood in the past so staidly. It should hold up formal acceptance of the invitation until it has learned further details. On the highest authority it can be stated that there are no details to the Secretary's note, as it would be impossible to hope for concurrent action by so many powers upon any but the most general lines. That the officials of the Washington government could have had in mind the neutrality of Manchuria is declared on the face of it to be absurd.

Manchuria is recognized by the government of the war, and for this reason primarily the suggestion was made that hostilities be restricted.

## IS NOT PREPARED.

Russia Not Ready to Answer Note of Secretary Hay—Consult Military Authorities.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 12.—Russia is evidently not prepared at this time to give an answer to the United States Secretary Hay's note on the subject of the neutrality of China. As previously stated in these dispatches, hostilities having begun, the military authorities must

be consulted, and the czar doubtless will for the time being defer to the military. He has not already done so. Russia, it can be said, is certainly as anxious as the United States that the war cause no outrages or disorders in China, indeed the attitude of China is already causing some uneasiness here, as she has not yet declared her neutrality.

It is thought here that the action of the Japanese in flooding Pekin with news of a well-planned campaign projected from the beginning to break down Russia's prestige in China for the purpose of ultimately effecting the union of the two races, which would make the "yellow peril" a reality.

Germany and Great Britain, it is understood, both express sympathy with its purpose, but with an important reservation concerning Manchuria, which is now the theatre of war. Germany's view in this respect was anticipated, but Great Britain's failure to give Secretary Hay unqualified support has caused surprise here.

## CHINA TO BE NEUTRAL

Proclamation Which Means a Great Deal as to Result of War to be Issued Immediately.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Minister Coker called the State Department to-day from Pekin that the Chinese government would immediately issue a proclamation of neutrality, having yesterday received from the Russian minister the declaration of war.

If this proclamation is observed, it will, of course, prevent the threatened invasion of Manchuria by the Boxers. China also must prevent the use of her soil by either Russian or Japanese troops. A cablegram received at the Navy Department announces the departure of the gunboat Wilmington from Hong Kong to Chefoo, just opposite Port Arthur. She will remain at this neutral port ready for service at any moment as a dispatch boat to communicate with the American ministers and consuls in case of need.

## GARRISONS ABSENT.

This Was State of Affairs at Port Arthur When Japanese Fleet Made Its Attack.

(By Associated Press.) LONDON, Feb. 12.—Complete silence has fallen over the far East. Not a word of news is to be had here except the report given out at the Japanese legation of the shelling of Port Arthur by the Japanese fleet. The Japanese minister, however, has been visited by four Russian warships, and the report from Vice-Admiral Alexeff of the blowing up of the Russian torpedo transport Yenlei.

This long silence has given rise to belief that important events are transpiring. The correspondent of the Times at Wei-Hai-Wei, in a dispatch dated February 11th, says the steamer Fu Ping, which is taking refugees to Shanghai, has brought the following account of the Port Arthur engagement:

The garrisons of the Port Arthur forts were absent from their stations, so retaliation was impossible. Daylight showed two Russian battleships and one cruiser apparently total wrecks. The Japanese attack was resumed in the morning, when another battleship was disabled and beached. The fire from the forts compelled the Japanese to retire. The Russians appeared to be completely demoralized and their torpedoes were useless against the Japanese.

The Fu Ping, which was flying the British flag, moved out, as she held a Russian permit to go. The Russian guard ship, however, fired three balls at her, which resulted in the wounding of one of her Chinese crew. Captain Gray, commanding the Fu Ping, then boarded the gunship and obtained permission to proceed after he signed a promise not to divulge what had occurred. The Russians said they were sorry they had fired on his ship.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph claims unimpeachable authority to declare that in the event of Russia being defeated in the far East, Germany will make a diversion in her favor likely to have far-reaching results.

## IS UNCONFIRMED.

Report That Russia Is Negotiating for Passage of Her Ships Through Dardanelles.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 12.—The report that Russia is negotiating for permission to bring her Black Sea fleet through the Dardanelles cannot be confirmed here. In diplomatic circles, while it is not believed that the plan would ever be carried out, the impression is that such an attempt would precipitate grave complications with the powers signatory to the Dardanelles convention.

## THE RED CROSS.

Directed by Dowager Empress to Make Provision for Alleviation of Suffering of Wounded.

(By Associated Press.) ST. PETERSBURG, Feb. 12.—The Dowager Empress has issued a decree to the Red Cross of Russia, directing it to make provision to alleviate the sufferings of the wounded in the war with Japan. A branch of the Red Cross has been established in the new Hermitage of the Winter Palace. The offers of services have been so numerous that no more can be entered at present. A continuance of the patriotic demonstrations, in which thousands of students and workmen participate, are reported from Moscow, Kiev and other places.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—Mark Knowlton, a well known and prominent citizen of Boston, dropped dead at the Union Station this morning, of which he was one of the original founders. His daughter was by his side when he died.

## FIERCE BATTLE IN SANTO DOMINGO

United States Minister Powell Reports That a Great Number Were Killed.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 12.—United States Minister Powell reports by cable to the State Department from Santo Domingo under date of the 9th that it was reported in the capital that a fierce battle had been fought in Sanchez and a great many people had been killed. The French warship Trude had arrived at San Domingo, and departed immediately, probably for Puerto Plata, where the Jimenez rebels were creating a disorder. The Spanish warship Rio de la Plata had also arrived at San Domingo.

## AFTER NORMAL SCHOOL.

Representatives of Various Cities Here to Secure It.

Mr. L. A. Larkin, Jr., a well known attorney of Manassas, and others from that place are in the city in the interest of that town's bid for the site of the proposed State Normal and Industrial School for women. Mr. L. S. Shuman, of Lynchburg, a well known real estate agent of that city, is also here to appear before the joint legislative committee and present Lynchburg's proposition for the school.

Mr. Henry O. Humphreys, of Bedford City, a well known lawyer and member of the Democratic State Central Committee, is in the city, stopping at Murphy's. Mr. Humphreys is believed to be here in the fight for the normal school site.

Messrs. George Perkins, J. N. Waddell and Charles G. Maphis, of Charlottesville, are at Murphy's Hotel.

Hon. Armistead C. Gordon, of the Staunton bar, and Hon. Lyman Chalkley, late judge of the County Court of Augusta, are among the arrivals at Murphy's. Mr. Gordon is a member of the State Library Board, and is well known in literary circles.

Hon. T. C. Fletcher, of Fauquier, a well known ex-legislator and an occasional visitor since his retirement from the House, is a guest at Murphy's.

Mrs. C. C. Cobb, Misses Mattie and Daisy Green, of Norfolk, are among the arrivals at Murphy's yesterday.

Among other Virginians at Murphy's last night were Dr. Robert F. F. Warren, a well known educator; Mr. W. W. Morrison, of Lexington; Mr. W. V. Rhinehart, of Covington, a member of the Democratic State Central Committee; Mr. John G. Osborne, a well known lawyer official, located at Radford; Mr. S. Y. Gilliam and wife, of Falmouth, and James P. Taylor, of Clarksville.

Colonel L. W. Lane, Jr., of Williamsburg; ex-Judge J. L. Tredway, of Chatham; Dr. R. J. Preston, of Marion; Dr. W. F. Drewry, of Petersburg; Dr. L. B. Foster, of Williamsburg; and Mr. R. B. Foster, of Staunton, all representing the State insane hospitals, are at Murphy's Hotel.

## AT THE THEATRES.

"A Friend of the Family" played a return engagement at the Academy yesterday, and again to-night. There were large and well-pleased audiences.

Kate Claxton will be seen at the Academy to-day, matinee and night, in "The Two Orphans." Miss Claxton comes from a family being the granddaughter of the Rev. Spencer Houghton Cook, who was blessed with a son, Kate, who was christened in the family by the immortal Dr. L. B. Foster, in 1812, and his memory is revered by the Baptist church, of which he was one of the original founders. Miss Claxton is a member of the Church Alliance, and devotes considerable time to church work.

"The Man Who Dared" will be presented at the Biltmore at the matinee this afternoon and again to-night, concluding the engagement of this attraction for the week. Beginning Monday night David Higgins and a specially selected company will open an engagement of the new dramatic feature of the season, "The Blues" benefit will be given Monday night and the wrestling match occurs Wednesday night.

## FINE ADDRESS.

Howard Hall Talks to Pupils of Daniels School.

Mr. Howard Hall, author, poet and ac-



Said the Jester to the King—

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"Gadzooks!" quoth the king—"It's no jest to make a man hungry"

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ter, who is now playing at the Blue play, addressed the pupils of the Daniels School of Acting, yesterday afternoon on the "Art of Acting." He spoke in his magnetic fashion for about an hour, and when he ceased his audience wished him to continue.

After the lecture, Mr. Hall was given a reception by the pupils, and the evening was most pleasantly spent.

## OBITUARY.

### Mrs. Martha A. Hobson.

The death of Mrs. Martha A. Hobson occurred Thursday at her home, No. 223 Third Street, northwest, Washington, D. C. She was the widow of Mr. Mary F. Hobson and mother of Mrs. Mary F. Oley.

The remains were brought here yesterday for interment in Hollywood Cemetery.

### Mrs. Lucy A. Lyon.

Mrs. Lucy A. Lyon, formerly of this city, died Thursday at her home, in Washington. She was the widow of Mr. Gustavus A. Lyon and mother of Mr. Charles E. Schroeder.

### Funeral Services.

The funeral services of Mrs. Annie Hall Camden took place at 4 o'clock yesterday afternoon from the Pine Street Baptist Church. The interment was made in River View Cemetery.

The funeral of Mr. Rudolph Kranser took place at 9 o'clock this morning from St. Mary's German Catholic Church.

### E. Cephas Rowe.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Feb. 12.—Mr. E. Cephas Rowe, youngest son of the late George Rowe, brother of the late ex-Mayor A. P. Rowe, died at the effects of a stroke of paralysis, aged 55 years.

Mr. Rowe completed his education at the University of Virginia, practiced law for several years, was a strong writer for the newspapers and periodicals, held a clerkship in the House of Representatives at Washington in the early seventies, and later in the Senate of Virginia. He was appointed to the United States Mail Railway Service in 1877 and for 27 years served on the R. F. & P. Railroad (now known as the Washington and Annapolis line) between this city and Orange, remaining at his post until Monday of this week. He served in the Confederate army as a cavalryman and later was transferred to the quartermaster's division and had charge of the Federal troops on Belle Isle, at Richmond, and was married in 1850, at Richmond, who died two years ago. He is survived by one son, Mr. James C. Rowe, and five daughters, Mrs. E. H. Goodrich, Mrs. Arthur B. Jones, Mrs. George Freeman, Jr., and Miss Constance Rowe, of this city, and Mrs. D. C. Hanson, of Richmond.

### Mrs. M. E. Bozel.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Feb. 12.—

Mrs. Maria B. Bozel, widow of the late Richard Bozel, died at her home here last night, aged 61 years. She is survived by five sons, Messrs. R. E. and Eugene Bozel, of this city; Ernest Hazel, of Baltimore; Lawrence Bozel, of Williamsburg; William Bozel, of West Virginia, and one daughter, Mrs. Nancy Brown, of Richmond, and one brother, Mr. F. M. Stare, of Kentucky.

Mrs. T. B. Kelley. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Thomas B. Kelley, of Chesapeake, Northampton county, formerly of this city, and daughter of the late Thomas Nicholson, died yesterday at the home of her sister, Mrs. A. L. Bacey, in Richmond, aged 55 years. She is survived by her husband, mother, one brother and five sisters. The remains will be brought here, and interred in the city cemetery.

Mrs. S. J. Hazard. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) FREDERICKSBURG, VA., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Sarah Jane Hazard, widow of the late John Hazard, of this city, died yesterday at the home of her son-in-law, Mr. L. H. Graybill, at Tacoma Park, Md., near Washington. She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Graybill and four sons, Frank Hazard, of West Virginia; Josiah and C. B. Hazard, of Washington, and William Hazard, of Norfolk. The remains will be brought to this city for interment.

Mrs. Hulda Miller. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) LEXINGTON, VA., Feb. 12.—Mrs. Hulda Taylor Miller, wife of Mr. George W. Miller, died Thursday morning at her home, near Denmark, Rockbridge county. Mrs. Miller was a sister of the late Bishop William Taylor, of the Methodist Church, who spent so many years as a missionary in Africa.

Reuben Pope. (Special to The Times-Dispatch.) BRISTOL, TENN., Feb. 12.—Reuben Pope, a son of G. W. Pope, of Bristol, died of typhoid fever at Coeburn, Va., a few days ago. The deceased is survived by his wife and one child. Following his marriage he went from Sullivan county to the Virginia coal mines, where he secured a position. His remains were brought back to his home county for interment. He was twenty-five years of age.

DEATHS. KRANZER.—Died at his residence, 523 Brook Avenue, LEXINGTON, VA., Feb. 12.—Mr. Rudolph Kranser, of this city, died at 9 o'clock on Thursday morning at his home, near Denmark, Rockbridge county. Mrs. Miller was a sister of the late Bishop William Taylor, of the Methodist Church, who spent so many years as a missionary in Africa.

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